

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02459 01 OF 02 192253Z

67

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 016485

P R 191844Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2084

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 2459

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

SUMMARY: FRG REP REPORTED ON HIS BRIEFING OF NAC
15 MARCH, SAID LATTER WOULD LIKE BEFORE 5 APRIL
GROUP'S ASSESSMENT OF STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS. SEVERAL
REPS INDICATED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO MEET THIS
SCHEDULE AND GROUP AGREED TO PREPARE REPORT, LISTING
THOSE EASTERN COMMENTS OR CRITICISMS ON WESTERN
PROPOSALS MERITING CONSIDERATION BY NAC AND
GOVERNMENTS DURING EASTER RECESS. GROUP APPROVED TALKING
POINTS FOR SIXTH INFORMAL MEETING WITH EASTERN REPS
IN DISCUSSION WHICH DOCUMENTED SENSITIVITY OF
FRG AND UK TO DISCUSSION OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF
NATO NUCLEAR RESPONSE. GROUP APPROVED US-SOVIET
GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES
AS DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR SEVENTH INFORMAL MEETING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 02459 01 OF 02 192253Z

WITH EASTERN REPS. IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES, US

REP SAID TOPICS SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO EAST IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO WAR OFF REPETITION OF SOVIET PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS TO STABILIZING MEASURES WHICH HAD BEEN MADE IN PLENARY. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN (UK REP ROSE) OPENED MEETING BY ASKING FRG REP (BEHREND) TO REPORT ON HIS BRIEFING OF NAC. FRG REP REPORTED THAT CANADIAN PERM REP (MENZIES) AND AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE HAD REITERATED THEIR FAVORABLE COMMENTS ON THE EFFICIENCY AND COHESION OF THE AD HOC GROUP. MENZIES HAD STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT ALTHOUGH ALLIES WERE NOT NOW UNDER ANY TIME PRESSURE, THIS MIGHT CHANGE AT ANY MOMENT AND NAC WOULD NEED SUFFICIENT PRIOR NOTIFICATION TO PROVIDE TIMELY GUIDANCE. NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) HAD SAID THAT AHG MIGHT NEED GUIDANCE ON (A) TEMPORARY FREEZE, (B) TIME NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FIRST PHASE, (C) WAYS OF INDICATING READINESS OF EUROPEAN PARTICIPANTS TO REDUCE, AND (D) DATA ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER. FRG REP SAID AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA WOULD BE USEFUL FOR PURPOSE OF STRESSING NEED TO FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES. AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE HAD SAID HE WOULD WELCOME AN ASSESSMENT BY THE AD HOC GROUP OF THE STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE THE EASTERN RECESS. HE HAD ALSO WANTED TO KNOW THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TEMPORARY FREEZE BETWEEN PHASES TO THE FORCE TO TOTAL FORCE STRUCTURE AND TO SYMBOLIC REDUCTION PROPOSAL.

2. FRG REP HAD REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FORCE FREEZE AND THE SYMBOLIC REDUCTION, AND ADDED THAT THE SYMBOLIC REDUCTION PROPOSAL, APART FROM THE OVERALL CEILING COMPONENT, DID NOT PROVIDE BASIS TO BUILD ON. NETHERLANDS REP HAD POINTED OUT THAT THE PROCEDURAL AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST APPLIED TO THE FIRST ROUND OF INFORMAL MEETINGS ONLY. FRG REP SAID NAC WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AHG'S ASSESSMENT, OF SESSION SINCE JANUARY BEFORE THE NEXT BRIEFING, WHICH IS SCHEDULED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02459 01 OF 02 192253Z

TO BE GIVEN BY US REP ON 5 APRIL.

3. CHAIRMAN ASKED IF NORWEGIAN ACTG REP (VAERNO) WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED FRG REP AND NETHERLANDS REP, HAD ANYTHING TO ADD. NORWEGIAN ACTG REP STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF MENZIES' ASSESSMENT OF WORK OF AHG, WHICH HE BELIEVED HAD INCREASED THE CONFIDENCE OF THE COUNCIL IN THE AHG. NORWEGIAN ACTG REP ALSO

NOTED THAT FRG REP HAD BRIEFED NAC ON EASTERN PRESS CAMPAIGN AND BOTH MENZIES AND DE STAERCKE SAID THAT ALLIES SHOULD TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE WITH REGARD TO ITS OWN PUBLIC OPINION. FRG REP ADDED THAT NAC HAD BEEN HAPPY TO HEAR THAT AHG WAS GOING TO HAVE PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO EASTER RECESS IN WHICH NETHERLANDS REP WOULD PRESENT STATEMENT. PERMREPS WOULD LIKE TEXT OF STATEMENT FOR USE WITH PRESS IN BRUSSELS AND CAPITALS. NORWEGIAN ACTG REP SAID JOURNALIST FRIENDS HAD TOLD HIM OF SOVIET COCKTAIL PARTY FOR SELECTED JOURNALISTS ON 14 MARCH AND HAD SAID THAT RUSSIANS HAD URGED THEM TO GIVE TALKS MORE COVERAGE. JOURNALISTS PRESENT HAD OBJECTED THAT DELEGATIONS DID NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE STORIES. TO THIS SOVIET DEP REP (SMIRNOVSKIY) HAD REFERRED THEM TO THE 5 MARCH IZVESTIYA ARTICLE IN REPLY.

4. CHAIRMAN OBSERVED THAT HE DID NOT THINK THERE WAS SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE A COMPLETE, WRITTEN ASSESSMENT TO REACH NAC PRIOR TO US REP'S BRIEFING. US REP REPLIED THAT SINCE TWO WEEKS YET REMAINED, AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO PREPARE AN ASSESSMENT. FRG REP CONCURRED BUT POINTED OUT THAT MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON CONTENTS OF ASSESSMENT. DE STAERCKE AND MENZIES APPARENTLY EXPECTED ASSESSMENT TO CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHICH THE NAC SHOULD CONCENTRATE DURING EASTER RECESS.

5. US REP OBSERVED IT WOULD BE UNLIKELY THAT AHG COULD REACH AGREEMENT ON RECOMMENDATIONS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING REPORT SINCE GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS MIGHT BE NECESSARY. HE THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT REPORT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 VIENNA 02459 01 OF 02 192253Z

AT THIS POINT TELL NAC WHERE NEGOTIATIONS STOOD, AND NOT AT THIS TIME INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT COURSE THEY SHOULD TAKE. UK REP AGREED, SINCE CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE IN ORDER, AND IT HAD BEEN ENVISAGED THAT THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE DURING EASTER BREAK. FURTHERMORE, IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICAL TO PREPARE SUCH AN ASSESSMENT BEFORE THE FINAL TWO INFORMAL SESSIONS. CANADIAN REP (GRANDE) INTERJECTED THAT HE WAS QUITE SURE THAT MENZIES AND DE STAERCKE HAD MEANT THAT THEY WANTED AHG TO MENTION ONLY MAJOR PRIORITIES OF SUBJECT TO BE CONSIDERED DURING RECESS.

6. UK REP SAID IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO GO AS FAR AS IDENTIFYING POINTS MADE BY EASTERN SIDE ON

WESTERN PROPOSALS WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAIL. UK
REP SUGGESTED THAT THIS PROBLEM BE DISCUSSED
SOME DAY LATER IN WEEK. UK REP TURNED TO
SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR 18 MARCH SESSION.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02459 02 OF 02 192253Z

67

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 016507

P R 191844Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2085

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 2459

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

TALKING POINTS FOR MARCH 18 SESSION.

7. DISCUSSION THEN CENTERED ON POSSIBLE RESPONSE
TO SOVIET DEP REP'S ACCUSATION THAT QUICK REACTION
ALERT STATUS OF NATO TACTICAL NUCLEAR FORCES HAD
OFFENSIVE IMPLICATIONS. UK REP CIRCULATED
SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS. US REP OFFERED TO
ADD UK LANGUAGE TO US TEXT WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS,
BUT UK REP REPLIED THAT HE WAS DISSATISFIED WITH
WORDING OF US TEXT (WHICH READ QUOTE THE PURPOSE
OF THIS ALERT IS TO ENABLE NATO FORCES TO REACT

TO AN ATTACK UNQUOTE). TO UK DELEGATION, THIS
SOUNDED AS THOUGH ANY WARSAW PACT ATTACK WOULD
AUTOMATICALLY TRIGGER NUCLEAR REACTION. US REP
ACCEPTED CRITICISM, BUT FRG REP FORCEFULLY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 02459 02 OF 02 192253Z

COUNTERED THAT IT WAS DISADVANTAGEOUS TO REASSURE
THE RUSSIANSTOO MUCH ON THE TIMING OF NATO USE
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE URGED THAT ALLIES NOT
VOLUNTEER CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH NUCLEARS
WOULD BE USED, AND NOTED THAT EASTERN SIDE WAS
NOT DISCUSSING THEIR NUCLEAR STRATEGY. GREEK REP
(DOUNTAS) EXPRESSED HIS PREFERENCE FOR AMERICAN
TEXT AS LACONIC AND SIMPLE AND SUGGESTED IT BE
USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH UK TEXT.

8. VARIOUS SUBSTITUTE WORDINGS WERE DISCUSSED
AT LENGTH, REFLECTING UK AND FRG SENSITIVITY
TO NUCLEAR SUBJECT. FRG ASKED WHY REPLY SUGGESTED
BY AMERICANS WAS NECESSARY AT ALL. US DEP REP
REPLIED THAT IT WAS BECAUSE IT WAS PRECISELY ON
THE POINT OF THE QUICK REACTION ALERT THAT
THE RUSSIANS WERE MARKING CASE THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS
MIGHT BE USED FROM OUTSET OF CONFLICT IN CENTRAL
EUROPE, THUS UNDERMINING ALLIED CONTENTION THAT
CONFLICT WOULD START WITH CONVENTIIONAL PHASE. IT
WAS FINALLY AGREED TO USE INTRODUCTORY PART OF US
TEXT PLUS SLIGHTLY AMENDED UK TEXT. THE REMAINDER
OF THE TALKING POINTS PAPER WAS ADOPTED WITH MINOR
AMENDEMENTS.

SUGGESTED APPROACH TO SESSION SEVEN

9. US DELEGATION CIRCULATED PAPER ON SUGGESTED
APPROACH TO SEVENTH SESSION WITH EASTERN REPS.
UK REP STRESSED THAT AGREEMENT ON PAPER WOULD HAVE
TO BE REACHED BEFORE 18 MARCH MEETING WITH SOVIET
REPS AT WHICH PROJECTED SUBJECTS FOR SEVENTH
SESSION WOULD HAVE TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE EAST.
CANADIAN REP QUESTIONED NEED OF INFORMING RUSSIANS
WHAT TOPICS OF SEVENTH SESSION WOULD BE, RECALLING
THAT IN INITIAL AGREEMENT ANY PARTICIPANT HAD
RIGHT TO RAISE ANY TOPIC HE DESIRED. UK REP
REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO USE BRINGING UP A
SUBJECT ABOUT WHICH THE OTHER SIDE WAS NOT
PREPARED TO TALK. ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) ASKED
WHY COMMON GROUND WAS NOT DISCUSSED INSTEAD.
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02459 02 OF 02 192253Z

HE MENTIONED THREE: PHASING, THE FIRST STABILIZING MEASURE, WHICH KHLESTOV HAD ADMITTED COULD BE TIED TO REDUCTIONS, AND US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS. US REP AGREED, BUT SAID THAT DETAILED TALKING POINTS WOULD BE DISCUSSED BY AHG NEXT WEEK, AND PRESENT TASK WAS ONLY TO AGREE ON SUBJECT MATTER IN ORDER TO AVOID PROCEDURAL OBJECTION ON PART OF SOVIETS AT SEVENTH MEETING IF ALLIES DECIDED TO RAISE US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS PLUS STABILIZING MEASURES. US DEP REP EXPLAINED THAT IF SOVIET REP HAD NOT MADE PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS IN PLENARY IT WOULD NOT NOW BE NECESSARY TO SECURE EASTERN AGREEMENT TO SUBJECT MATTER. SOVIET REP HAD SAID, MOREOVER, THAT HE MIGHT REVISE HIS POSITION ON THIS.

10. CHAIRMAN ASKED GROUP TO AGREE ON SUBJECT MATTER OF SEVENTH SESSION, AND SUGGESTED THREE POSSIBILITIES; US-SOVIET GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS, US-SOVIET GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS AND RELATED ASPECTS, AND LASTLY US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES. NETHERLANDS ACTING REP (VON BALLUSECK) SAID THAT HIS DELEGATION FELT STRONGLY THAT IN VIEW OF ITS IMPORTANCE, AN ENTIRE SESSION OR MORE SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES. BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) AGREED. US REP REPLIED THAT AFTERNOON MEETING OF 18 MARCH HAD TO CONCENTRATE ON SECURING EASTERN ACCEPTANCE TO ALLIED DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES, INCLUDING STABILIZING MEASURES, WITHOUT RAISING PROCEDURAL OBJECTION. FRG REP AGREED. ITALIAN REP ASKED WHAT ALLIES WOULD DO IF EASTERN SIDE STILL RULED SUCH DISCUSSION OUT OF ORDER. BELGIAN REP URGED GROUP NOT TO GIVE SOVIETS A CHANCE TO OBJECT AND THUS NOT TO WARN THEM IN ADVANCE. US REP REPLIED THAT ALLIES HAD EXCELLENT CASE. ALL PARTICIPANTS HAD AGREED TO LISTEN TO ANY POINTS. US DEP REP WAS WELL BRIEFED TO REPLY TO EASTERN OBJECTION. THE PRESENT COMMUNICATION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER TO THE RUSSIANS WAS MERELY A PROPHYLACTIC MEASURE TO ENSURE AGAINST AN EASTERN WALK-OUT AT THE SEVENTH SESSION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 VIENNA 02459 02 OF 02 192253Z

11. THE GROUP AGREED THAT SOVIETS SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT ALLIED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION WOULD BE US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES. THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT AHG MEETING WOULD BE HELD

11 A.M. ON 19 MARCH.TRINKA

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, MILITARY PLANS, NUCLEAR WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENNA02459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740058-0300
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740331/aaaabcv.tel
Line Count: 332
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, US, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005